

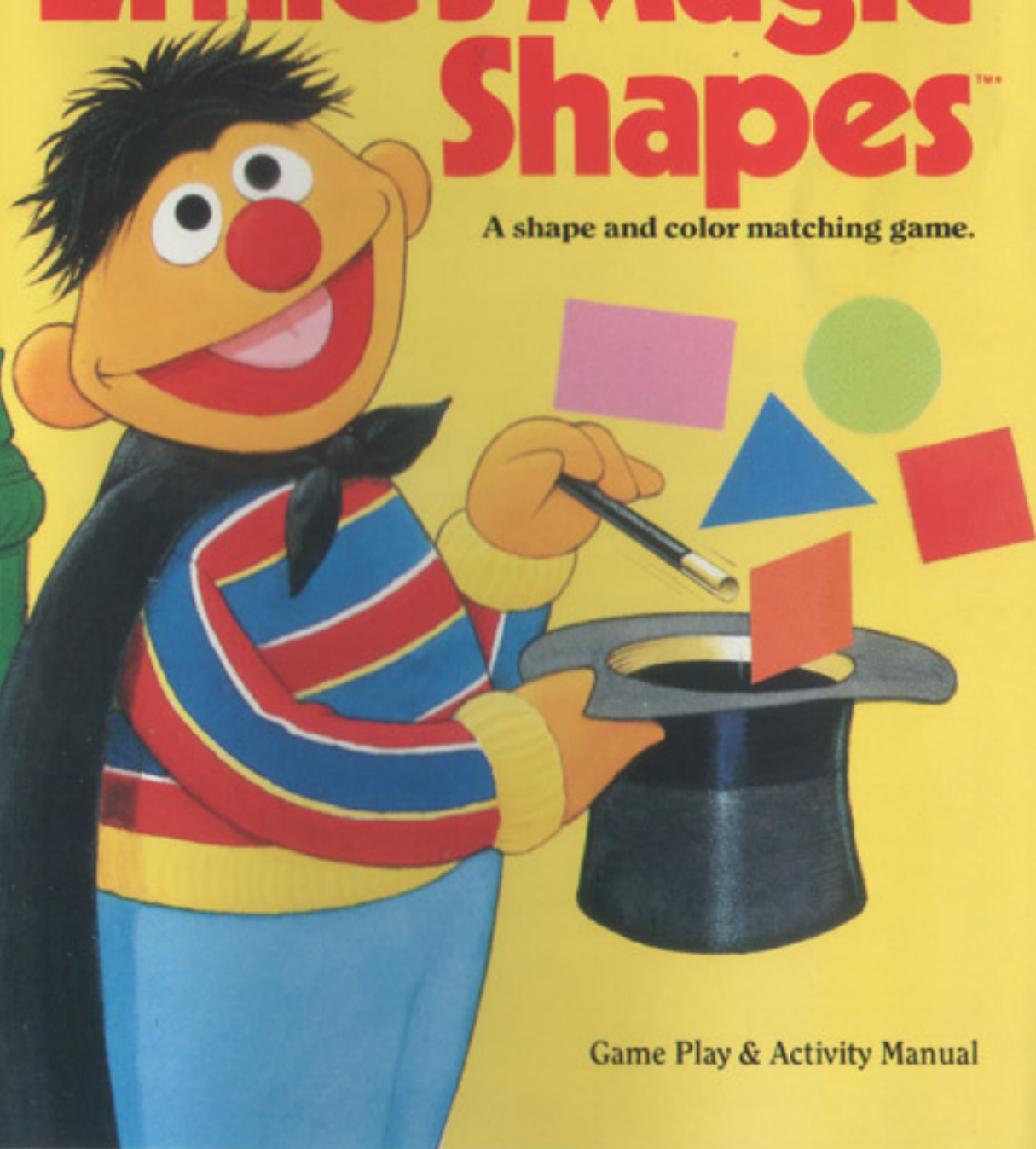
CTW

**SESAME STREET**

A SESAME STREET®  
Preschool Skills Activity

# Ernie's Magic Shapes™

A shape and color matching game.



Game Play & Activity Manual

**CBS**  
SOFTWARE

## **Why are CTW Computer Games Different?**

Since 1968, Children's Television Workshop (CTW) has demonstrated that one of the greatest vehicles for learning is fun. The computer activities developed by the CTW Software Group for CBS Software continue this tradition, drawing on the interactive capability of the computer.

## **The Goals of CTW Games**

These computer games have extended the goals pioneered by CTW in television with *Sesame Street*, *The Electric Company* and *3-2-1 Contact*. Friendly and engaging, they encourage constructive play and active learning. CTW games allow children to experiment and explore, to think and solve problems, and to practice skills while they are having fun. Each one is designed to be a family experience—where everybody plays together and learns from each other.

## **Computers and Learning**

Equally important, the computer has brought an exciting new dimension to electronic learning—that of interaction. A great deal of planning and research have gone into making these games responsive to children of different ages and learning styles. Whenever possible, the level of difficulty, pacing and direction of the games are under the control of the player. *As the child responds to the computer, the computer responds to the child.*

ERNIE'S MAGIC SHAPES provides a playful setting in which children practice visual discrimination—an important preschool skill. Ernie gently points out mistakes, while his infinite patience and the delightful antics of his magic bunny provide reinforcement and encouragement. Featuring lively, colorful graphics, this unique computer activity emphasizes computer interaction as it entertains and helps your child understand important concepts.

The games and materials in this package were developed by the CTW Software Group, a division of Children's Television Workshop, in cooperation with CBS Software.

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Featuring the JIM HENSON SESAME STREET MUPPET CHARACTERS™

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## Ernie's Magic Shapes™\*

**ABRACADABRA!**  
**Get ready for**  
**some shape magic!**



You're going to like playing  
**ERNIE'S MAGIC SHAPES.**

It's a game made just for kids like you.

At Children's Television Workshop, we think kids are special. That's why we thought about what kids like best and what makes games fun when we created this game and the activities that go with it.

So, if you're ready for fun, let's get started!

### Get Ready

The Reference Card included with **ERNIE'S MAGIC SHAPES** contains all the information needed to set up your computer. It also helps you get started enjoying all the fun of this game right now! So look at the Reference Card first and come back to this manual for the rest of the details.



#### Parents:

We have tried to describe each activity as clearly as possible in the hope that you will read this booklet with your child.

Whenever you see a paragraph with this symbol, you will find additional notes to help you guide your child through the game.



*Abracadabra! Ernie's here!  
Poof! His magic shapes appear.  
Match the shapes—and colors, too,  
And choose the game that's right for you!*





## Right Before Your Eyes

Before you can play ERNIE'S MAGIC SHAPES, you have to decide how hard you want your game to be. Choose your level and you'll be on your way!

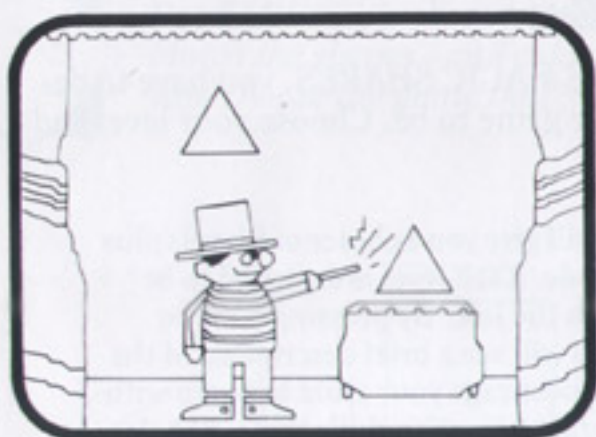


The game menu will give you a choice of 6 levels plus an instruction mode. Each level is designed to be more difficult than the last. By pressing a menu number (1-7), you will see a brief description of the activity chosen. Encourage your child to begin with the easiest level and to practice skills that will help with the next level.



## It's Magic!

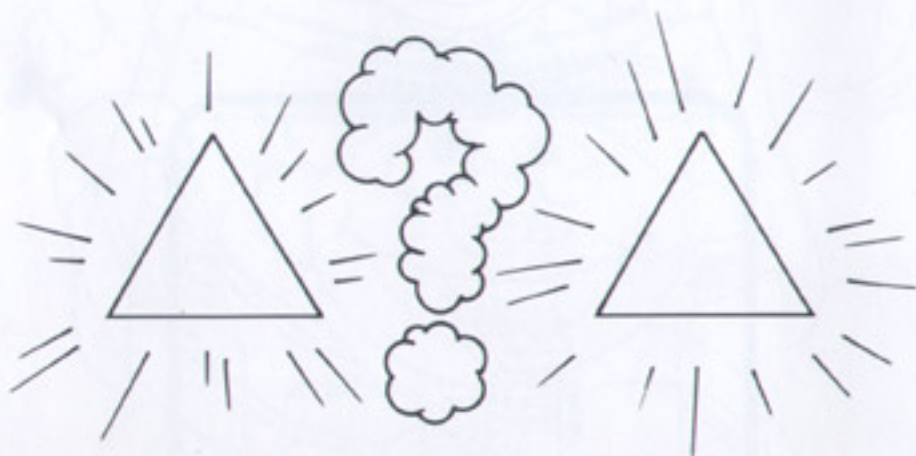
Who is that on the screen? It's your old buddy Ernie—he's turned into a magician! When Ernie raises his arm... POOF! A shape picture appears above his head.



What next? When Ernie turns and waves his magic wand...


**ZAP!**  
A shape appears on the table beside him.

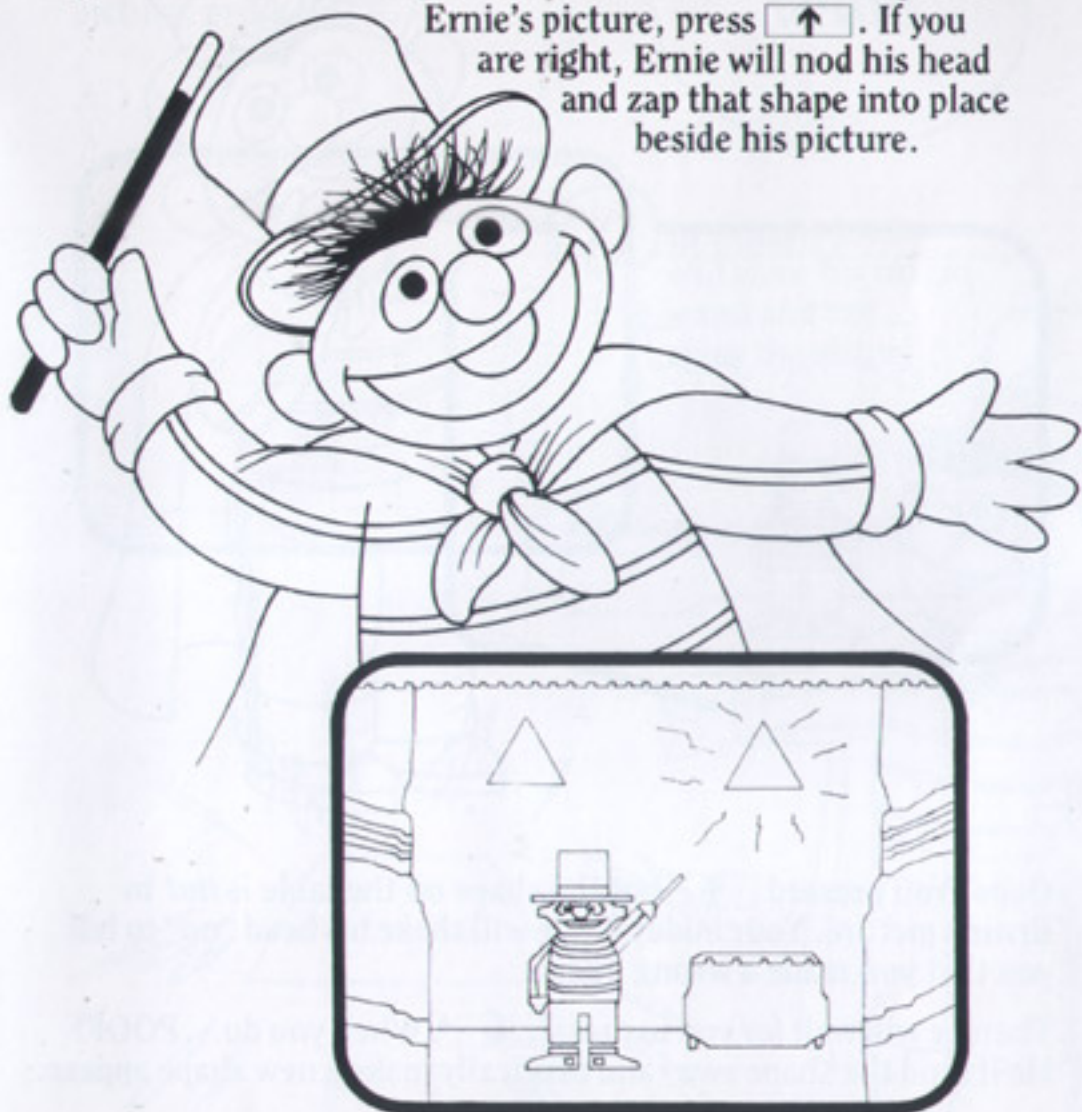
Now comes your job. Take a look at the shape on the table. Is it the same size and color as one of the shapes in Ernie's picture? Or, if Ernie's picture has only one shape, does it match the shape on the table?



Remind your child to look at both color *and* shape. You may want to point to the shape on the table and then to Ernie's picture and ask your child, "Are these shapes just the same?"

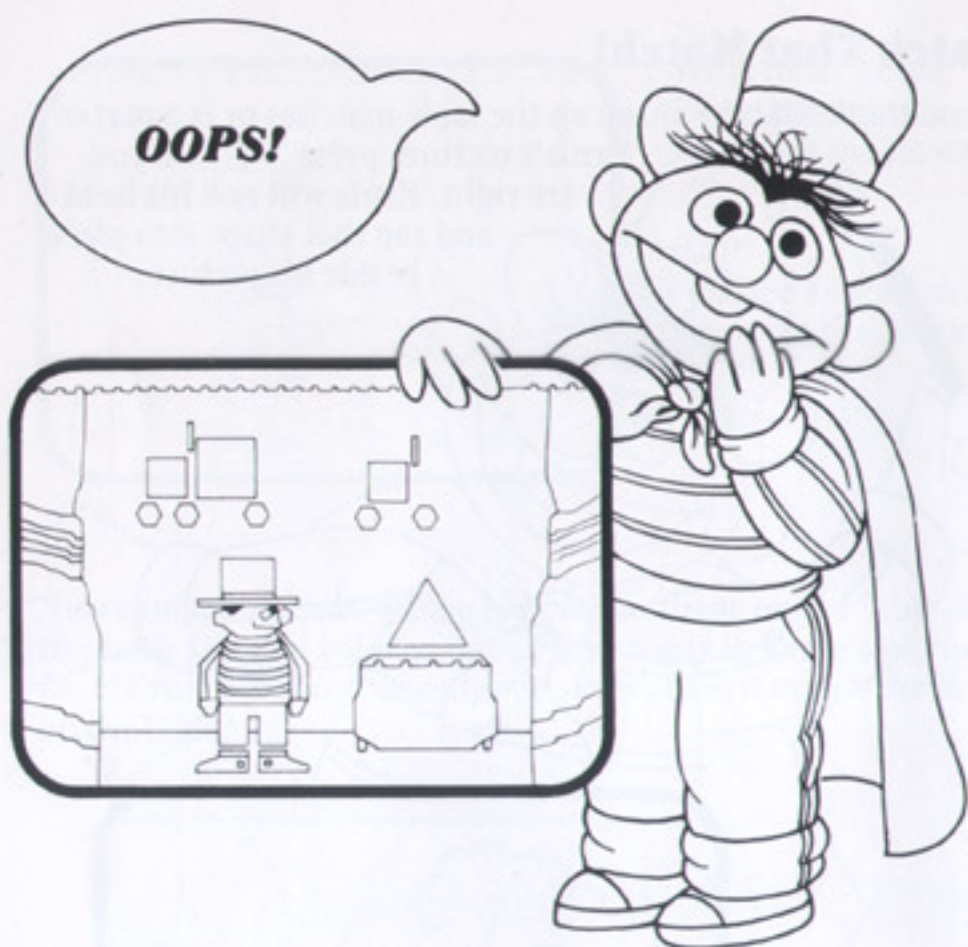
## Catch That Match!


If you think that the shape on the table matches or is a part of Ernie's picture, press ☐ . If you are right, Ernie will nod his head and zap that shape into place beside his picture.




Ask your child, "What happened to the shape on the table?" If he or she is not sure, point to the shape that is now above the table.







Oops! You pressed  but the shape on the table is *not* in Ernie's picture. Your buddy Ernie will shake his head "no" to tell you that you made a wrong guess.

Then he will wait for you to press  <sup>▲</sup>. When you do...POOF! He'll send the shape away and magically make a new shape appear.

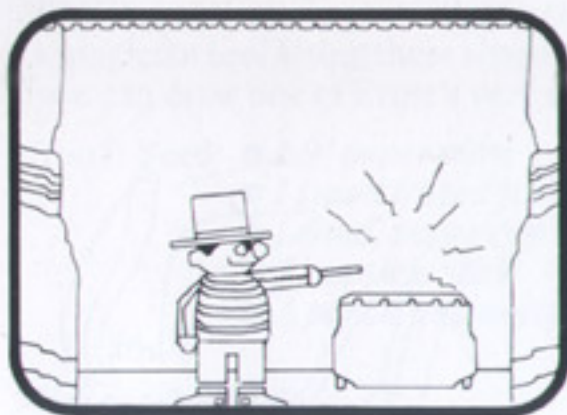


At first you might need to remind your child to press  after Ernie shakes his head "no." Say something like "That shape is not in Ernie's picture. Press  to send the shape away."

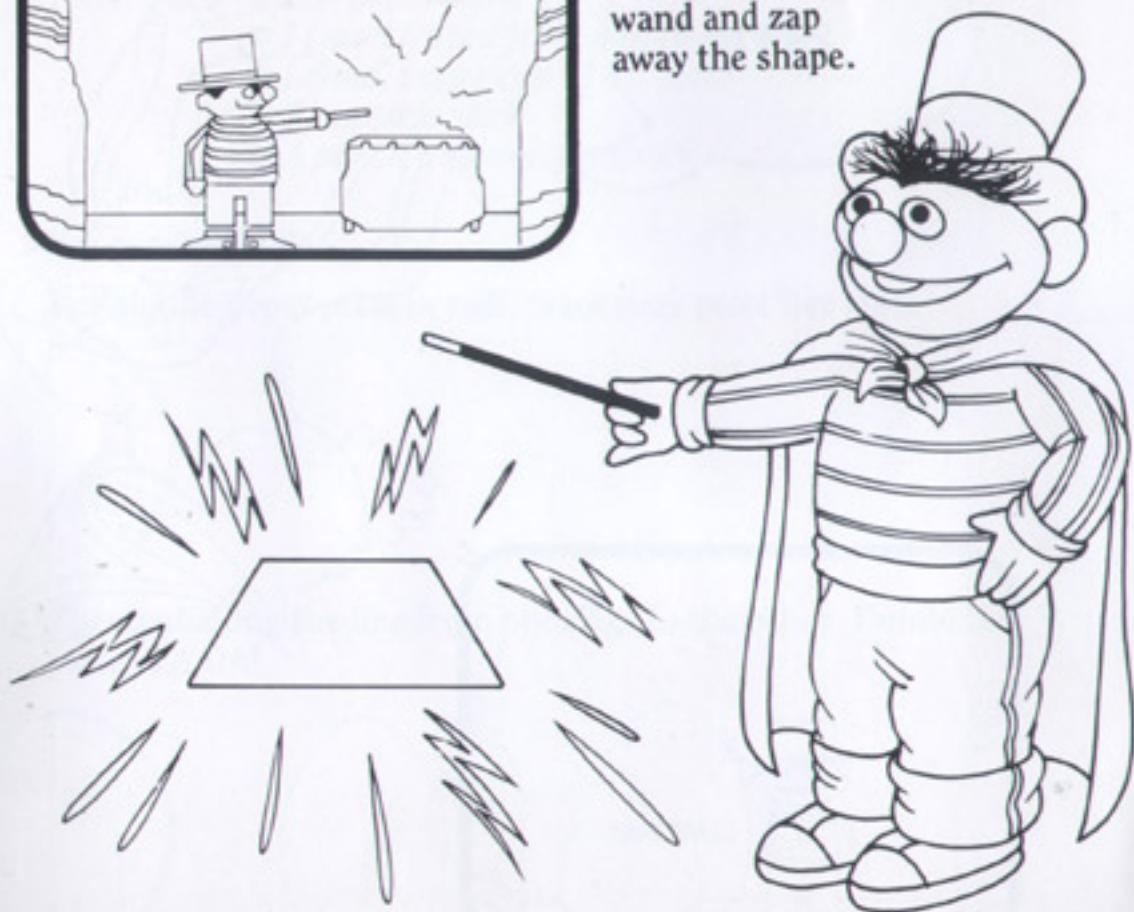


## Shapes Away!

If you decide that a shape on the table is *not* a part of Ernie's picture, press .



In a flash, Ernie will wave his magic wand and zap away the shape.



Yikes! You goofed and pressed  when a shape *was* in the picture. Don't worry—Ernie will bring back that shape later and you can choose it then.

## Get The Picture?

Not every shape Ernie zaps on the table will be part of his picture. So watch those shapes carefully!

When you have matched all of the shapes in a picture, Ernie's magic rabbit will pop onto the screen and hop around.



Then Ernie will wave his magic wand and both shape pictures will disappear. Presto! You will be ready for a new shape picture.



## **CTW Software Group Development Team for Ernie's Magic Shapes**

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